



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE

October 31, 2017

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

33 October 31, 2017

LORI GLASGOW  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**CONSTRUCTION-RELATED CONTRACT  
WATER RESOURCES CORE SERVICE AREA  
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR  
AS-NEEDED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This action is to award and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute 11 consultant services agreements with AECOM Technical Services, Inc.; Aspen Environmental Group; Dudek; ECORP Consulting, Inc.; Environmental Planning Development Solutions, Inc.; ICF Jones and Stokes, Inc.; Meridian Consultants LLC; Psomas; Ruth Villalobos and Associates; Inc.; Sapphos Environmental, Inc.; and Stillwater Ecosystem, Watershed and Riverine Sciences. The agreements are for as-needed environmental services to comply with local, State, and Federal environmental laws, rules, regulations, and permit conditions in the planning and implementation of Water Resources projects undertaken by the Department of Public Works. These agreements will support projects undertaken by Public Works for the County, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles Waterworks Districts, and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District of the County of Los Angeles.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for reasons stated in this Board letter.
2. Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute consultant services agreements with the following three small-sized firms: Environmental Planning Development

Solutions, Inc., Meridian Consultants LLC, and Ruth Villalobos and Associates, Inc.; three medium-sized firms: Aspen Environmental Group, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., and Stillwater Ecosystem, Watershed and Riverine Sciences; and five large-sized firms: AECOM Technical Services, Inc., Dudek, ECORP Consulting, Inc., ICF Jones and Stokes, Inc., and Psomas; to provide as-needed environmental services for various projects and maintenance activities related to the facilities of Public Works and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, County of Los Angeles Water Works Districts, and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District of the County of Los Angeles for a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,818,000 individually, an aggregate program total of \$64,000,000 for a 3-year term plus a single 1-year extension option, commencing upon full execution of the agreements.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or his designee to administer the above-referenced agreements and at the discretion of the Director of Public Works or his designee to exercise the option to extend any or all of the contracts for the single, 1-year extension option, based upon project demands and the level of satisfaction with the services provided.

4. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or his designee to authorize additional services and extend each of the agreements' expiration date as necessary to complete those additional services when those additional services are: 1) previously unforeseen, 2) related to a previously assigned Scope of Work on a given project or maintenance activity, and 3) are necessary for the completion of that given project or maintenance activity.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended actions is to retain 11 consultants to provide the Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and the County of Los Angeles Waterworks Districts and Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District (hereinafter referred to as Districts) with as-needed environmental services for Public Works' Enhanced Watershed Management projects in unincorporated areas, the Districts' projects, and Public Works' and the Districts' maintenance activities. The recommended actions will enable Public Works and the Districts to comply with local, State, and Federal environmental laws, rules, regulations, and permit conditions in the planning and implementation of their projects and maintenance activities.

As-needed environmental services will be used to support environmental documentation, regulatory permit acquisition, permit compliance, mitigation planning and implementation, and related community outreach and public relations.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The County Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Strategy II.1, Drive Economic and Workforce Development in the County and Objective II.1.2 Support Small Businesses and Social Enterprises; Strategy II.3, Make Environmental Sustainability our Daily Reality and Objective II.3.1, Improve Water Quality, Reduce Water Consumption, and Increase Water Supplies; and Strategy III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability. The recommended actions improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of our communities while maximizing and leveraging resources.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total cost of the as-needed consultant services shall not exceed an aggregate total of

\$64,000,000 for 11 firms, which represents the estimated cost to provide services over the 3-year period with option to extend each agreement with a 1-year extension period. It is expected that the initial 3-year term of the agreements will start during Fiscal Year 2017-18 and conclude in Fiscal Year 2020-21. The 1-year extension option, if exercised, would be operative through Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Funds will be encumbered in the following Public Works administered funds: The Flood Control District Fund; Road Fund; Public Works General Fund (unincorporated County Areas Urban Runoff and Stormwater Quality Program); Waterworks Districts Funds; and Sewer Maintenance Districts Funds. Funds will be encumbered prior to consultant being directed to provide services. Total expenditures for these services will not exceed the amount approved by the Board. Funding for the services is included in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budgets of the various Public Works funds. Funds to finance the remainder of the agreement term and optional year will be requested through the annual budget process.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The firms will perform environmental compliance services to support delivery of construction and maintenance projects for Public Works and the Districts. Public Works and the Districts regularly require the services of environmental firms to perform certain functions and studies associated with obtaining environmental clearance and permitting. These consultant services agreements will provide Public Works with the needed resources and expertise.

A standard consultant services agreement, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The consultant services agreements will contain terms and conditions in compliance with the Chief Executive Office and the Board's requirements. The consultant services agreements will contain terms and conditions in compliance with the Board's ordinances, policies, and programs. The agreement also includes a provision requiring the consultant firms to track subcontractor's utilization of Local Small Business Enterprise (LSBE), Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise, and Social Enterprise Businesses (SEB).

The expiration of each of the consultant services agreements is subject to the following condition: When services for a given project have been authorized in writing by the County, but are not completed by the consultant prior to the stated expiration date, the expiration date will be automatically extended solely to allow for the completion of the services.

The enclosed spreadsheet reflects the consultants' minority participation. The consultants were selected upon final analysis and consideration without regard to race, creed, gender, or color. Community Business Enterprise participation data required certification forms and the 3-year contracted histories with the County are on file with Public Works for the 11 consultants.

As part of Public Works' Workforce Reinvestment Plan, a contract analysis is currently underway to determine possible alternate service delivery through permanent County Labor. We expect to complete our analysis and brief the Board on our findings by the end of March 2018.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The recommended actions are not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because they are activities that are excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378(b) of the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action, to award as-needed consultant services agreements for anticipated future projects and maintenance activities, is an administrative activity of

government that will not result in direct or indirect changes to the environment. We will return to the Board as necessary for consideration of appropriate environmental documentation pursuant to CEQA prior to commencement of activities under the agreements that may constitute a project.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On March 16, 2017, Public Works issued a Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the as-needed environmental services for Public Works and the Districts' projects and maintenance activities. The RFP was posted on the "Doing Business with Public Works" and "Public Works Contract Opportunities" websites, and advertised in the Los Angeles Daily Journal, the Los Angeles Sentinel, and La Opinion. Also, Public Works informed 1,243 LSB about this business opportunity. Public Works reached out to non-LSBE and SBE firms to inform them and their subcontractors of the benefits of being a certified LSBE and to encourage them to become an LSBE, if eligible.

The RFP solicited small-, medium-, or large-sized firms. Each firm was requested to certify its own size based on number of personnel for competition with other firms in the same size category. The RFP stated the County's objective to award contracts in a not-to-exceed amount of \$6,400,000 each to a total of ten firms as follows: three small-sized firms (with 25 or fewer personnel), three medium-sized firms (with 26 to 75 personnel), and three large-sized firms (with over 75 personnel). The RFP also stated that prior to award of the contract the County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to increase or decrease the number of selected firms in any category or the total number of contracts; decrease the \$6,400,000 not-to-exceed amount of any contract; and/or increase the \$6,400,000 not-to-exceed amount of any contract by up to 25 percent.

On May 1, 2017, 15 firms submitted proposals. On May 8, 2017, Public Works canceled the RFP to revise the minimum requirements to allow the opportunity for more firms to submit proposals.

On May 8, 2017, Public Works reissued a RFP for the as-needed environmental services for Public Works and the Districts' projects and maintenance activities. The RFP was reposted on the County's "Doing Business with Public Works" and "Public Works Contract Opportunities" websites and was advertised in the Daily Commerce and the Los Angeles Daily Journal. Public Works again informed 1,243 local SBE's about this business opportunity. Public Works again reached out to non-LSBE and/or SBE firms to inform them and their subcontractors of the benefits of being a certified LSBE and to encourage them to become an LSBE, if eligible. The enclosure reflects the selected and nonselected contractor's utilization participation.

On May 22, 2017, a total of 17 proposals were received. For the business-sized enterprise category, there were four proposals for the small sized, seven proposals for the medium-sized, and six proposals for the large-sized. Two of the medium-sized firms/proposals were disqualified for submitting past the deadline.

An evaluation committee composed of staff from Public Works evaluated the proposals based on criteria described in the RFP, including technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. The evaluations were completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender, and in accordance with the informed averaging methodology. Based on the evaluation of the proposals, the following firms were selected: small-sized category – Environmental Planning Development Solutions, Inc., Meridian Consultants LLC, and Ruth Villalobos and Associates, Inc.; medium-sized category – Aspen Environmental Group, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., and Stillwater Ecosystem, Watershed and Riverine Sciences; and large sized category – AECOM Technical Services, Inc., Dudek, ECORP Consulting, Inc., ICF

Jones and Stokes, Inc., and Psomas. The selected firms represent the best qualified firms from each size category to provide the required services. Public Works has determined that the firms' proposed rates for performing the services are reasonable.

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the County of Los Angeles Code, Chapter 2.201 (Living Wage Program) does not apply to the recommended agreements. These consultant services agreements are exempt from the requirements of Proposition A because the services are required on a part-time and intermittent basis.

The consultant services agreements include a cost-of-living adjustment provision in accordance with the Board policy, which was approved on January 29, 2002.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

There will be no impact on current County services or projects as a result of authorizing the recommended consultant services agreements. These agreements will provide necessary as-needed environmental services in an efficient manner by enhancing the delivery of Public Works' and the Districts' projects.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return an adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division.

Respectfully submitted,



MARK PESTRELLA  
Director

MP:CS:pw

Enclosures

- c: Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)
- County Counsel (Mike Simon)
- Executive Office

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CONSULTANTS' UTILIZATION PARTICIPATION FOR  
AS-NEEDED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR WATER RESOURCES BRANCH**

Small-Sized Business Category Consultant Name Consultant Name (Prime with subcontractors* listed below) - *only subcontractors with Utilization Participation were listed.	Local SBE	SBE	Minority	Women	Disadvantaged	Disabled/Vet
Environmental Planning Development Solutions, Inc.						
Blackhawk Environmental, Inc		X				X
Cogstone Resource Management, Inc		X		X	X	
Urban Crossroads, Inc.		X				
Meridian Consultants, LLC						
AQUALITY Engineering, Inc.	X	X		X	X	
Ruth Villalobos & Associates, Inc.				X		
Jericho Systems, Inc.				X	X	
<b>Medium-Sized Business Category Consultant Name (Prime with subcontractors* listed below) - *only subconsultants with Utilization Participation were listed.</b>						
Aspen Environmental Group						
Buena Vista Environmental Consulting, Inc.				X	X	
Cogstone Resource Management, Inc.				X	X	
Geotechnical Consultants, Inc.		X	X			
Hernandez, Kroone, & Associates, Inc.				X		
Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc.				X		
Pacific Restoration Group, Inc.		X				





